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Amash announces winners of art competition

Pieces to be displayed in U.S. Capitol and Amash's congressional offices

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Rep. Justin Amash (R-Mich.) announced the winners of ArtFest 2018, the Congressional Art Competition for Michigan's Third District, at an awards ceremony at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on Saturday, May 5.

Nick Ensing's piece, <u>Classy</u>, was named the grand prize winner and will be on display in the U.S. Capitol for one year alongside winners from other congressional districts. <u>Harmony</u> by Elijah Beasley (Kent Career Tech Center) and <u>Point Cabrillo</u> by Hannah Van Wert (Kent City High School) were the Representative's Choice winners and will be displayed for one year in Amash's congressional offices.

Ensing, a student at Northview High School, will visit Washington, DC, this June for a reception honoring the winners. Pieces from Mallory Jarrett (Rockford High School), Sophia Layton (East Grand Rapids High School), Claire Shaffer (Northview High School), Keauna Hayes (Thornapple Kellogg High School), Willow Barnes (Kent Career Tech Center), Nisa Brooks (East Kentwood High School), and Ivan Reynolds (Lowell High School) were named honorable mentions.

The Grand Rapids Art Museum, Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, Kent Intermediate School District, Portland Community Arts Council, Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, ArtPrize, and the Kellogg Community College Art Department were sponsors and participated in the judging committee.

The Congressional Institute sponsors the Congressional Art Competition in cooperation with the U.S. House of Representatives. The annual competition is open to high school students in participating congressional districts. More than 650,000 students have taken part in the competition since it began in 1982.

A copy of the grand prize winning piece is attached to this release.

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